Remarks

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. Upon entry of the foregoing Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-12 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 8 and 11 being the independent claims.

The first paragraph of page one has been amended to correct the domestic priority information. This change introduces no new matter, and its entry is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Raymond Millien

Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 43,806

Registration No. 45,800

Date: 6/13/

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.

Suite 600

Washington, D.C. 20005-3934

(202) 371-2600

P103-95.wpd

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

In the Specification:

The first paragraph of page 1, which begins at line 11, has been amended as follows:

This application is a continuation-in-part application of and claims priority to Ser. No. [09/907,714] 09/097,714 (Attorney Docket No. 1481.0100001), filed June 16, 1998, which is a continuation of Ser. No. 08/588,248 (Attorney Docket No. 1481.0100000), filed January 18, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,832,456, both of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.